GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4568
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2007
RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP SCHEME
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme for STs in the country recently;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives of the scheme;

(c) the number of students covered under the above scheme in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh since its inception year-wise; and

(d) the amount of fellowship provided to Junior and Senior Fellows under the above Scheme?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The aim and objective of the scheme is to provide fellowships in the form of financial assistance to ST students to pursue M.Phil and Ph.D courses. The scheme covers all universities/institutions recognized by the University Grant Commission (UGC). Every year upto 667 fellowships may be provided to ST students.

(c): The scheme was launched during the year 2005-06. University Grants Commission (UGC) has been entrusted with the task of implementing the scheme on behalf of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. UGC has intimated that 990 candidates have been granted fellowships under the scheme during 2005-06 and 2006-07, of which 109 fellowships have been given to candidates from Andhra Pradesh.

(d): The details of amount to be provided to Junior and Senior Fellows under the scheme is as under:

S.N.	Item	Amount (per student)
1.	Fellowship	@ Rs. 8000/- p.m. for initial two years (JRF) @ Rs. 9000/- p.m. for remaining tenure (SRF)
2.	Contingency for Humanities and Social Sciences	@ Rs. 10000/- p.a. for initial two years @ Rs. 20500/- p.a. for remaining tenure.
3.	Contingency for Sciences, Engineering & Technology	@ Rs. 12000/- p.a. for initial two years @ Rs. 25000/- p.a. for remaining tenure
4.	Departmental assistance	@ Rs. 3000/- p.a. per student to the host institution for providing infrastructure.
5.	Escorts/Reader Assistance	@ Rs. 1000/- p.a. in case of physically and visually handicapped candidates.
6.	House Rent Allowance	As per the UGC norms.